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carbonate salt, water soluble bicarbonate salt, water soluble anionic polymer, and mixtures thereof.;

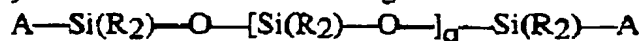
- (E) optionally, an effective amount to provide olfactory effects of perfume;
- (F) optionally, an effective amount, to kill, or reduce the growth of microbes, of antimicrobial active;
- (G) optionally, an effective amount, to provide improved antimicrobial action, of aminocarboxylate chelator;
- (H) optionally, an effective amount of antimicrobial preservative, in addition to, or in place of said antimicrobial active; and
- (I) optionally, an aqueous carrier,

said composition optionally being essentially free of any material that would soil or stain fabric under usage conditions.

2. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said composition comprises a silicone fiber lubricant wherein the silicone is volatile, preferably of the formula: $[(CH_3)_2SiO]_5$, and is present at a level of from 0.1% to 5%, by weight of the composition.

3. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said composition comprises a silicone fiber lubricant wherein the silicone is present at a level of from 0.1% to 5% by weight of the composition, and is selected from the group consisting of:

- a. polyalkyl silicone with the following structure:



wherein each R is an alkyl, a hydroxy, or a hydroxyalkyl group, and mixtures thereof, having less than 8 carbon atoms; q is an integer from 7 to 8,000; each A is a group selected from hydrogen, methyl, methoxy, ethoxy, hydroxy, and propoxy;

- b. silicone having the formula:



wherein x and y are integers;

- c. silicone material having the formula:



wherein G is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, OH, and/or C_1-C_5 alkyl; a denotes 0 or an integer from 1 to 3; b denotes 0 or 1; the sum of n + m is a

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number from 1 to 2,000; R^1 is a monovalent radical of formula $C_pH_{2p}L$ in which p is an integer from 2 to 4 and L is selected from the group consisting of:

$-N(R^2)CH_2-CH_2-N(R^2)_2$;

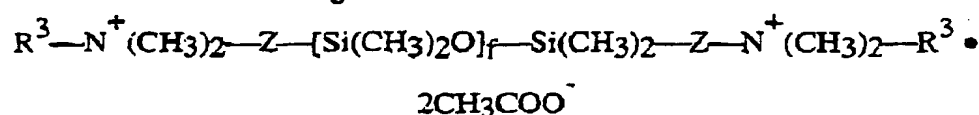
$-N(R^2)_2$;

$-N^+(R^2)_3 A^-$; and

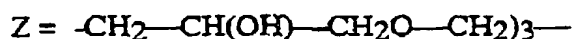
$-N^+(R^2)CH_2-CH_2N^+H_2 A^-$

wherein each R^2 is chosen from the group consisting of hydrogen, a C_1 - C_5 saturated hydrocarbon radical, and each A^- denotes compatible anion;

d. silicones having the formula:



wherein

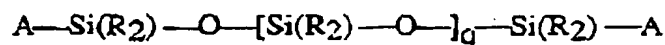


R^3 denotes a long chain alkyl group; and

f denotes an integer of at least 2; and

e. mixtures thereof;

preferably the silicone is polydialkyl silicone



with A and R groups being methyl.

4. The composition of Claim 1 wherein the composition comprises a shape retention polymer wherein the shape retention polymer is a homopolymer and/or copolymer having a glass transition temperature of from -20°C to 150°C and comprising monomers selected from the group consisting low molecular weight C_1 - C_6 unsaturated organic mono-carboxylic and/or polycarboxylic acids; esters of said acids with C_1 - C_{12} alcohols; amides and imides of said acids; low molecular weight unsaturated alcohols; esters of low molecular weight unsaturated alcohols with low molecular weight carboxylic acids; ethers of low molecular weight unsaturated alcohols; polar vinyl heterocyclics; unsaturated amines and amides; salts of said amines with low molecular weight carboxylic acids; C_1 - C_4 alkyl quaternized derivatives of said amines; vinyl sulfonate; low molecular weight unsaturated hydrocarbons and derivatives; and mixtures thereof; preferably the monomers are selected from the group consisting of: acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, crotonic acid, maleic acid and its half esters, itaconic acid, and esters of said acids with methanol,

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ethanol, 1-propanol, 2-propanol, 1-butanol, 2-methyl-1-propanol, 1-pentanol, 2-pentanol, 3-pentanol, 2-methyl-1-butanol, 1-methyl-1-butanol, 3-methyl-1-butanol, 1-methyl-1-pentanol, 2-methyl-1-pentanol, 3-methyl-1-pentanol, t-butanol, cyclohexanol, 2-ethyl-1-butanol, neodecanol, 3-heptanol, benzyl alcohol, 2-octanol, 6-methyl-1-heptanol, 2-ethyl-1-hexanol, 3,5-dimethyl-1-hexanol, 3,5,5-trimethyl-1-hexanol, 1-decanol, 1-dodecanol, and mixtures thereof; methyl acrylate; ethyl acrylate; t-butyl acrylate; methyl methacrylate; hydroxyethyl methacrylate; methoxy ethyl methacrylate; N,N-dimethylacrylamide; N-t-butyl acrylamide; maleimides; vinyl alcohol; allyl alcohol; vinyl acetate; vinyl propionate; methyl vinyl ether; vinyl pyrrolidone; vinyl caprolactam; vinyl pyridine; vinyl imidazole; vinyl amine; diethylene triamine; dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate; ethenyl formamide; vinyl sulfonate; ethylene; propylene; butadiene; cyclohexadiene; vinyl chloride; vinylidene chloride; salts thereof and alkyl quaternized derivatives thereof; and mixtures thereof; more preferably the monomers are selected from the group consisting of: acrylic acid; methacrylic acid; methyl acrylate; ethyl acrylate; methyl methacrylate; t-butyl acrylate; t-butyl methacrylate; n-butyl acrylate; n-butyl methacrylate; isobutyl methacrylate; 2-ethylhexyl methacrylate; vinyl alcohol; dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate; N,N-dimethyl acrylamide; N,N-dimethyl methacrylamide; N-t-butyl acrylamide; vinylpyrrolidone; vinyl pyridine; adipic acid; diethylenetriamine; salts thereof and alkyl quaternized derivatives thereof; and mixtures thereof.

5. The composition of Claim 1 wherein said shape retention polymer comprises silicone-containing graft and block copolymers having the following properties:

- (1) the silicone portion is covalently attached to the non-silicone portion;
 - (2) the molecular weight of the silicone portion is from 1,000 to 50,000;
- and

the non-silicone portion must render the entire copolymer soluble or dispersible in the fabric care composition vehicle and permit the copolymer to deposit on/adhere to the treated fabrics; preferably said shape retention polymer has an average molecular weight of from 10,000 to 1,000,000, preferably from 30,000 to 300,000, and comprises from 5% to 50%, preferably from 10% to 25% of silicone-containing monomers.

6. The composition of any of Claims 1-5 additionally containing at least one of the following adjunct materials: perfume, fiber lubricant, shape retention polymer, lithium salt, odor control agent including cyclodextrin, surfactant, antimicrobial

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active, antibacterial preservative, chelating agent including aminocarboxylate chelating agent, enzyme, antioxidant, static control agent, fabric softening active, suds suppressor, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixing agent, soil release agent, brightener, dispersant, insect repelling agent, moth repelling agent, and/or liquid carrier. ↗

7. A fabric care composition according to any of Claims 1-6 which is a rinse-added composition containing from 0.1% to 50%, preferably from 1% to 35%, more preferably from 2% to 18%, and even more preferably from 3% to 10%, by weight of the composition, of said fabric improving active, and optionally containing fabric softener active at a level of from 1% to 75%, preferably from 2% to 65%, more preferably from 3% to 45%, and even more preferably from 4% to 35%, by weight of the composition.

8. The composition of Claim 7 wherein said fabric softening active has an Iodine Value of at least 40, and has a phase transition temperature of less than 50°C, preferably less than 35°C, more preferably less than 20°C, said composition additionally comprising:

- (A). optionally, less than 40%, preferably from 1% to 25%, more preferably from 3% to 8%, by weight of the composition, of principal solvent having a ClogP of from -2.0 to 2.6, preferably from -1.7 to 1.6, more preferably from -1.0 to 1.0;
- (B). optionally, from 0.1 % to 10%, preferably from 0.5% to 2.5%, by weight of the composition, of electrolyte;
- (C). optionally, from 0.1% to 15%, preferably from 0.5% to 7%, more preferably from 1% to 6%, by weight of the composition of phase stabilizer, preferably being a surfactant containing alkoxylation and having an HLB of from 8 to 20, preferably from 10 to 18; and
- (D). the balance water, minor ingredients and/or water soluble solvents.

9. The fabric care composition of Claims 8 or 9 additionally containing at least an effective amount of at least one of the following adjunct materials: perfume, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixative agent, chlorine scavenging agent, soil release agent, chemical stabilizer including antioxidant, silicone, antimicrobial active and/or preservative, metal chelating agent including aminocarboxylate chelating agent, colorant, enzyme, brightener, liquid carrier, or mixtures thereof.

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10. A fabric care composition according to any of Claims 1-6 which is a laundry detergent composition containing from 0.2% to 30% by weight of the composition, of said fabric improving active and from 0.1% to 60% by weight of the composition, of surfactant, and additionally containing at least one of the following adjunct materials: perfume, builder, bleaching agent, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixative agent, odor control agent including cyclodextrin, brightener, dispersant, heavy metal chelating agent, enzyme, suds suppressor, fabric softening agent, soil release agent, and/or liquid carrier.

11. The composition of Claim 10 wherein said composition is in the form selected from the group consisting of liquid, powder, granules, tablets, paste, gel, foam, spray, bar, stick, and optionally contained in a pouch or attached to a releasable substrate.

12. A fabric care composition according to any of Claims 1-6 which is an aqueous composition to apply to fabric in the drying step, containing said fabric improving active at a level of from 0.01% to 25%, preferably from 0.1% to 10%, more preferably from 0.2% to 5%, even more preferably from 0.3% to 3%, by weight of the compositions, and optionally containing fabric softener active at a level of from 0.05% to 10%, preferably from 0.1% to 7%, more preferably from 0.5% to 5%, by weight of the composition.

13. A fabric care composition according to any of Claims 1-6 which is a dryer-added fabric softening composition containing said fabric improving active at a level of from 0.01% to 40%, preferably from 0.1% to 20%, more preferably from 1% to 10%, by weight of the composition, and fabric softener active at a level of from 1% to 99%, preferably from 10% to 80%, more preferably from 20% to 70%, and even more preferably from 25% to 60%, by weight of the composition.

14. The fabric care composition according to any of Claims 10-13 additionally containing at least an effective amount of at least one of the following adjunct materials: perfume, chlorine scavenging agent, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixative agent, chemical stabilizer including antioxidant, silicone, antimicrobial active and/or preservative, metal chelating agent including aminocarboxylate chelating agent, brightener, enzyme, soil release agent, liquid carrier, or mixtures thereof.

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15. An article of manufacture comprising a fabric care composition comprising fabric improving active for providing a fabric with at least one of the following fabric care benefits: wrinkle removal and/or reduction, fabric wear reduction, fabric pilling reduction, fabric color fading reduction, fabric color maintenance, fabric color restoration, fabric soiling reduction, fabric shape retention, and/or fabric shrinkage reduction, said fabric improving active being selected from the group consisting of oligosaccharides, oligosaccharide mixtures, substituted versions of said oligosaccharides and/or mixtures, derivatised versions of said oligosaccharides and/or mixtures, and mixtures thereof, in a package in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said fabric improving active to provide at least one of said fabric care benefits.

16. An article of manufacture comprising the fabric care composition of Claim 1 in a package in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said fabric improving active and/or said fabric care composition, to provide at least one of the following fabric care benefits: wrinkle removal and/or reduction, fabric wear reduction, fabric pilling reduction, fabric color maintenance, fabric color fading reduction, fabric color restoration, fabric soiling reduction, fabric soil release, fabric shape retention and/or fabric shrinkage reduction.

17. An article of manufacture comprising the composition of Claim 1 in a spray dispenser, preferably comprising a trigger spray device or a non-manually operated spray dispenser, preferably said composition is an aqueous composition containing from 0.1% to 5%, preferably from 0.1% to 2%, by weight of said composition, of said fabric improving active.

18. The article of manufacture of Claim 17 wherein said spray dispenser comprises a non-manually operated spray dispenser selected from the group consisting of: powered sprayer; air aspirated sprayer; liquid aspirated sprayer; electrostatic sprayer; and nebulizer sprayer.

19. The article of manufacture according to any of Claims 15-18 wherein said composition additionally contains at least one of the following adjunct materials: perfume, fiber lubricant, shape retention polymer, lithium salt, odor control agent including cyclodextrin, surfactant, antimicrobial active, antibacterial preservative, metal chelating agent including aminocarboxylate chelating agent, enzyme, static

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control agent, fabric softening active, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixing agent, soil release agent, brightener, antioxidant, suds suppressor, insect repelling agent, moth repelling agent, and/or liquid carrier.

20. The article of manufacture according to any of Claims 17-19 in association with instructions for use to direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said composition and/or said fabric improving active to said fabric, to provide said fabric with at least one of the following fabric care benefits: wrinkle removal and/or reduction, fabric wear reduction, fabric pilling reduction, fabric color fading reduction, fabric color maintenance, fabric color restoration, fabric soiling reduction, fabric shape retention, and/or fabric shrinkage reduction, preferably wherein the instructions for use direct the consumer to apply an amount of composition to provide from 0.005% to 4%, preferably from 0.01% to 2%, more preferably from 0.05% to 1% of fabric improving active, by weight of the fabric, more preferably wherein the instructions for use direct the consumer to apply the composition to the fabric in combination with stretching and/or smoothing of fabric, to provide effective wrinkle removal.

21. An article of manufacture comprising the concentrated fabric care composition of Claim 1 with instructions for use to direct the consumer to dilute said composition to form the unconcentrated, ready-to-use fabric care composition of Claim 1.

22. An article of manufacture comprising the composition of Claim 1 to be applied directly to said fabric in a manner such that excessive amounts of the fabric/garment care composition are prevented from being released to the open environment, packaged in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said fabric improving active to said fabric in said manner to provide said fabric care benefits, preferably said composition contains from 0.01% to 2% of fabric improving active, by weight of the composition.

23. An article of manufacture comprising the composition of Claim 1 to pretreat said fabric before washing, packaged in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said composition to said fabric to provide said fabric care benefits.

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24. An article of manufacture comprising the composition of Claim 1 which is a wash additive composition, packaged in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said composition to said fabric to provide said fabric care benefits.
25. An article of manufacture comprising the composition according to any of Claims 1-6, 10 and 11 which is a laundry detergent composition, packaged in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said composition to said fabric to provide the fabric care benefits.
26. An article of manufacture comprising the composition according to any of Claims 1-9 which is a rinse additive composition, packaged in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said composition to said fabric to provide said fabric care benefits.
27. An article of manufacture comprising the composition according to any of Claims 1-6, 12 and 13 to apply to fabric in the drying step, packaged in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said composition to said fabric to provide said fabric care benefits.
28. The article according to any of Claims 15-16 and 20-27 wherein said instructions for use include pictures and/or icons.
29. Fabric, preferably a cellulosic fabric, more preferably selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, ramie, jute, flax, linen, polynosic-fibers, polyester/cotton blends, and mixtures thereof, most preferably selected from the group consisting of cotton, rayon, linen, polyester/cotton blends, other cotton blends, and mixtures thereof, having improved characteristics having an effective amount of fabric improving active attached hereto, preferably wherein said fabric comprises from 0.005% to 4%, preferably from 0.01% to 2%, more preferably from 0.1% to 1%, by weight of the fabric of said fabric improving active.
30. A method for providing a fabric with a fabric care benefit selected from the group consisting of: wrinkle removal and/or reduction, fabric wear reduction, fabric pilling reduction, fabric color fading reduction, fabric soiling reduction, fabric shape retention, fabric shrinkage reduction and mixtures thereof, wherein said method

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comprises contacting said fabric with an effective amount of the fabric improving active selected from the group consisting of oligosaccharides, oligosaccharide mixtures, substituted versions of said oligosaccharides and/or mixtures, derivatised versions of said oligosaccharides and/or mixtures, and mixtures thereof.

31. A method for providing a fabric with a fabric care benefit selected from the group consisting of: wrinkle removal and/or reduction, fabric wear reduction, fabric pilling reduction, fabric color fading reduction, fabric soiling reduction, fabric shape retention, fabric shrinkage reduction and mixtures thereof, wherein said method comprises contacting said fabric with an effective amount of the fabric improving active, preferably wherein said fabric improving active is provided by an aqueous composition containing from 0.1% to 5%, preferably from 0.005% to 4%, more preferably 0.01% to 2%, and even more preferably from 0.1% to 1%, by weight of said fabric care composition, of said fabric improving active, wherein said fabric improving active is provided by using the fabric care composition according to any of Claims 1-14, preferably wherein said fabric care composition additionally comprises at least one of the following adjunct fabric care materials: perfume, fiber lubricant, shape retention polymer, lithium salt, odor control agent including cyclodextrin, surfactant, antimicrobial active, antibacterial preservative, aminocarboxylate chelating agent, enzyme, static control agent, fabric softening agent, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixing agent, soil release agent, brightener, antioxidant, suds suppressor, insect repelling agent, moth repelling agent, and/or liquid carrier.

32. The method according to Claim 31 wherein said fabric improving active is provided by an aqueous composition that is sprayed onto said fabric as droplets, preferably having a weight average diameter of from 5 μ m to 250 μ m, more preferably from 10 μ m to 120 μ m, and most preferably from 20 μ m to 100 μ m, by using a spray dispenser, preferably in combination with stretching and/or smoothing of said fabric.

33. The method according to Claim 32 wherein said spray dispenser comprises a trigger spray device or a non-manually operated sprayer selected from the group consisting of: power sprayer; air aspirated sprayer; liquid aspirated sprayer; electrostatic sprayer; and nebulizer sprayer.

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34. The method according to Claim 31 wherein said fabric is dipped and/or soaked in said aqueous fabric care composition, preferably containing from 0.5% to 40%, by weight of said fabric care composition, of said fabric improving active, followed by a squeezing step and/or a drying step, or followed by a laundering step.

35. The method according to Claim 31 wherein said fabric care composition contains from 0.2% to 30% by weight of the composition, of said fabric improving active and from 0.1% to 60% by weight of the composition, of surfactant, and additionally contains at least one of the following adjunct materials: perfume, builder, bleaching agent, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixing agent, odor control agent including cyclodextrin, brightener, dispersant, heavy metal chelating agent, enzyme, suds suppressor, fabric softening active, soil release agent, liquid carrier, or mixtures thereof.

36. The method according to Claim 31 wherein said fabric care composition is a rinse-added composition containing from 0.1% to 50%, preferably from 1% to 35%, more preferably from 2% to 18%, by weight of the composition, of said fabric improving active, and optionally containing fabric softener active at a level of from 1% to 75%, preferably from 2% to 65%, more preferably from 3% to 45%, and even more preferably from 4% to 35%, by weight of the composition, preferably wherein said fabric care composition additionally contains at least one of the following adjunct materials: perfume, odor control agent including cyclodextrin, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixative agent, chlorine scavenging agent, soil release agent, chemical stabilizer including antioxidant, silicone, antimicrobial active and/or preservative, metal chelating agent including aminocarboxylate chelating agent, colorant, enzyme, brightener, bluing agent, liquid carrier, or mixtures thereof.

37. The method according to Claim 31 wherein said fabric care composition is an aqueous composition to apply to fabric in the drying step, containing said fabric improving active at a level of from 0.01% to 25%, preferably from 0.1% to 10%, more preferably from 0.2% to 5%, even more preferably from 0.3% to 3%, by weight of the compositions, and optionally containing fabric softener active at a level of from 0.05% to 10%, preferably from 0.1% to 7%, more preferably from 0.5% to 5%, by weight of the composition, preferably wherein said composition is applied from a spray device.

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38. The method according to Claim 31 wherein said fabric care composition is a dryer-added fabric softening composition containing said fabric improving active at a level of from 0.01% to 40%, preferably from 0.1% to 20%, more preferably from 1% to 10%, by weight of the composition, and fabric softener active at a level of from 1% to 99%, preferably from 10% to 80%, more preferably from 20% to 70%, and even more preferably from 25% to 60%, by weight of the composition, preferably wherein said composition is released from a flexible substrate.

39. The method according to Claim 37 or 38 wherein said composition additionally contains at least one of the following adjunct materials: static control agent, distributing agent, perfume, fiber lubricant, adjunct shape retention polymer, lithium salt, odor control agent including cyclodextrin, dye transfer inhibiting agent, dye fixative agent, chlorine scavenging agent, soil release agent, brightener, heavy metal chelating agent, enzyme, antimicrobial active, antibacterial preservative, aminocarboxylate chelating agent, antioxidant, and/or liquid carrier.

40. A method for removing fabric wrinkles by treating said fabric with the composition according to any of Claims 1-14.

41. A method for reducing fabric wear by treating said fabric with the composition according to any of Claims 1-14.

42. A method for providing fabric color care benefits selected from the group consisting of fabric color maintenance, fabric color fading reduction, fabric color restoration, and mixtures thereof, by treating said color fabric with an effective amount of the composition according to any of Claims 1-14.

43. Use of fabric improving active in a fabric care composition to provide a fabric with at least one of the following fabric care benefits: wrinkle removal and/or reduction, fabric wear reduction, fabric pilling reduction, fabric color fading reduction, fabric color maintenance, fabric color restoration, fabric soiling reduction, fabric shape retention, and/or fabric shrinkage reduction, said fabric improving active being selected from the group consisting of oligosaccharides, oligosaccharide mixtures, substituted versions of said oligosaccharides and/or mixtures, derivatised versions of said oligosaccharides and/or mixtures, and mixtures thereof,

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44. An article of manufacture comprising the composition according to any of Claims 1-14 to be applied directly to a garment in a manner such that excessive amounts of the fabric care composition are prevented from being released to the open environment, packaged in association with instructions for use which direct the consumer to apply at least an effective amount of said fabric improving active to said garment in said manner to provide said fabric care benefits, preferably comprising from 0.01% to 2% of fabric improving active, by weight of the composition.

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